



April 4, 2014

**Ex Parte**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

FCC Mail Room

**EX PARTE OR LATE FILED**

*RE: Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; GN Docket No. 09-51; High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45; Universal Service Reform – Mobility Fund, WT Docket No. 10-208; Modernizing the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries, WC Docket No. 13-184*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, April 2, 2014 I represented the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) to Gigi Sohn, Special Counsel for External Affairs for FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler, Trent Harkrader-Associate Chief in the Wireline Bureau, and Daniel Alvarez-Legal Counsel in Wheeler's office. I discussed the need for federal policy to assist California in achieving state broadband deployment and adoption goals, and identified 3 top priorities most important to advance CETF objectives: E-rate Modernization; Affordable Broadband Lifeline Rate; and Rural maps and definition.

**E-rate Modernization:** Allow WiFi signals to be broadcast beyond the school site to extend the learning day; consider supporting broadband service to the student's device and do not place restrictions on the device going home; support plain old telephone service and slower broadband service when there are no other options.

**Affordable Broadband Lifeline Rate:** Talk about the opportunity for schools to promote an affordable broadband program to encourage parents to get broadband at home. Consider incentives for schools that offer digital literacy training to parents and train teachers how integrate technology into learning since these schools will be able to use broadband more effectively.

**Rural maps and definition:** California is at a disadvantage when the Rural Utility Service definition is used. The provider maps do not show enough detail to be useful in finding all the unserved and underserved areas because they show census groups and blocks as served when a household has subscribed.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Walters  
Senior Vice President  
California Emerging Technology Fund